

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA  
NORTHERN DIVISION

MARK KNOX,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 2:18-cv-946-ECM-JTA
	)	
DR. PATTEL, et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

In this action, Plaintiff alleges multiple acts of medical malpractice by staff at Veterans Administration facilities. (Doc. No. 8, Am. Compl.) On November 14, 2019, this action was referred to the undersigned for consideration and disposition or recommendation on all pretrial matters as may be appropriate pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636.

On December 11, 2019, Plaintiff filed a Motion to Amend the Amended Complaint. (Doc. No. 38.) On April 14, 2020, the court denied the motion and ordered Plaintiff to file a motion to amend the Amended Complaint containing specific information by April 30, 2020. (Doc. No. 43.) Plaintiff did not comply with the court's Order. On May 29, 2020, the court ordered Plaintiff to show cause by June 8, 2020 as to why his case should not be dismissed due to his failure to prosecute this action and comply with this court's orders. (Doc. No. 44.) In said Order, Plaintiff was cautioned that his failure to show cause would result in a Recommendation by the undersigned that this case be dismissed. (*Id.*)

As of the present date, Plaintiff has failed to respond to the court's May 29, 2020 Order despite having accepted service of the Order on May 30, 2020. (Doc. No. 45.)

Because of Plaintiff's failure to comply with the court's orders, the undersigned concludes this case should be dismissed without prejudice. *Moon v. Newsome*, 863 F.2d 835, 837 (11th Cir. 1989) (As a general rule, where a litigant has been forewarned, dismissal for failure to obey a court order is not an abuse of discretion.). The authority of courts to impose sanctions for failure to prosecute or obey an order is longstanding and acknowledged by Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *See Link v. Wabash R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 629–30 (1962). This authority empowers the courts "to manage their own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases." *Id.* at 630–31; *Mingo v. Sugar Cane Growers Co-Op of Fla.*, 864 F.2d 101, 102 (11th Cir. 1989) (holding that "[t]he district court possesses the inherent power to police its docket."). "The sanctions imposed [upon dilatory litigants] can range from a simple reprimand to an order dismissing the action with or without prejudice." *Id.*

Accordingly, it is the RECOMMENDATION of the undersigned that this case be DISMISSED without prejudice for Plaintiff's failure to comply with the orders of the court and to prosecute this action.

It is further

ORDERED that **on or before June 30, 2020**, Plaintiff may file an objection to the Recommendation. Plaintiff must specifically identify the factual findings and legal conclusions in the Recommendation to which he objects. Plaintiff is advised that frivolous, conclusive, or general objections will not be considered. This Recommendation is not a final order and, therefore, it is not appealable.

Failure to file a written objection to the Magistrate Judge's findings and recommendations in accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) shall bar a party from a *de novo* determination by the District Court of legal and factual issues covered in the Recommendation and waives the right of the party to challenge on appeal the district court's order based on unobjected-to factual and legal conclusions accepted or adopted by the District Court except upon grounds of plain error or manifest injustice. 11th Cir. R. 3-1; *see Resolution Trust Co. v. Hallmark Builders, Inc.*, 996 F.2d 1144, 1149 (11th Cir. 1993); *Henley v. Johnson*, 885 F.2d 790, 794 (11th Cir. 1989).

DONE this 15th day of June, 2020.

/s/ Jerusha T. Adams  
JERUSHA T. ADAMS  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE